

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): THOMPSON, Eric

Art Unit: 3632

Division of

Serial No.: 09/769,187

File Date: July 15, 2003

Examiner: LE, Tan

Title: TOOLLESS LOCKING MOUNT

Preliminary Amendment

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Page 1, line 1, please add the following sentence as a separate first paragraph:

This application is related to U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/177,757 filed on Jan. 24, 2000 and entitled "Toolless Locking Mount" and is a division of application number 09/769,187 filed Jan. 24, 2001, now US Patent No. 6,592,088 issued July 15, 2003.

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please rewrite claims 1, 2 and 7, and consider new claims 8-18 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A universal mounting mechanism for holding an object needing secure physical connection to another surface, comprising:

a base having a face for engaging an outside corner of said object, said face having surfaces for engaging two non-parallel outside surfaces of said object;

a top pivotally mounted on said base to rotate over said base and lie on a plane orthogonal to said surfaces of said face to engage upper surfaces of said object that lie orthogonal to said outside surfaces when said object lifts away from said other surface, and locks into either a closed position over said face, or an open position clear of said face;